

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] Field of the Invention: The present invention relates to the construction and building industries, and more specifically to a device for use in foundation construction. The device has been developed especially, but not exclusively, as a piling device (or piling machine) and the invention is herein described in that context. However, it is to be appreciated that the invention has broader application and is not limited to that particular use.

Please amend paragraph [0005] as follows:

[0005] Alternatively, a hammer piling device can be used in conjunction with a boring device. Both the hammer piling device and the boring device can be mounted on a truck tray. The boring device can be used to ~~pre-bore~~rebore a hole. A pile can then be placed into the hole and a hammer piling device can then be used to hammer the pile into the ground to the required depth. Advantageously, ~~pre-boring~~reboring the hole has been found to generate less vibration compared with the previously mentioned hammer piling device when used for the entire piling process. Unfortunately, however, ~~pre-boring~~reboring a hole adds to the time and cost associated with the piling process. Such arrangements are also of limited piling capacity.

Please amend paragraph [0006] as follows:

[0006] Hydraulic piling devices have been developed in an effort to overcome some of the problems associated with the above-described arrangements. Hydraulic piling devices include an upstanding support frame. One or more hydraulic jacking cylinders are connected at their upper ends to the support frame and extend downwardly within the frame. The lower ends of the hydraulic cylinders include a means for engaging the upper end of the pile. Alternatively, a means is provided at the lower ends of the hydraulic cylinders for gripping around the pile. Extension of the hydraulic cylinders causes the pile to be forced into the ground. The support frame is provided with ~~counter-weights~~counterweights to ensure that extension of the hydraulic

cylinders causes the pile to be forced into the ground, rather than causing the support frame to lift from the ground. Thus, the pile is driven into the ground not by hammering or boring, but instead by a pushing force. This provides a device that is, in relative terms, substantially free of operating noise, and which generates substantially no vibrations. As a result, these devices are often referred to as "silent piling devices."

Please amend paragraph [0009] as follows:

[0009] Further, once a silent piling machine is installed in place and the ~~counter weights~~counterweights are fitted to the support frame, it is a very time-consuming, labor-intensive and, therefore, costly process to move the device. This potential problem is particularly evident if, during the piling process, the pile encounters a large rock or other object below the surface of the ground, thereby preventing further piling in that particular location. The portion of the pile extending from the ground prevents the device being moved to a new location, leaving the device idle. Indeed, the device remains idle until the pile portion extending from the ground is broken off. Only at this point can the device be moved to a new location.

Please amend paragraph [0022] as follows:

[0022] The at least one opening may be provided with a gate or other suitable closure to prevent access to within the frame during the piling operation. Each gate may be hingedly connected to the frame such that it can be moved between an open position and a closed position.

Please amend paragraph [0041] as follows:

[0041] Figure FIG. 1 illustrates in diagrammatic form a plan view of one embodiment of a piling device according to the present invention.

Please amend paragraph [0042] as follows:

[0042] Figure FIG. 2 is a front view of the piling device of Figure FIG. 1.

Please amend paragraph [0043] as follows:

[0043] Figure FIG. 3 is a side view of the piling device of Figure FIG. 1.